

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 PM-07 NSC-07 SS-20 FBIE-00

SY-04 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /100 W
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R 151610Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5895

INFO AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1103

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT EI UK (NI)

SUBJ: IRISH-AMERICAN ORGANIZATION DISCOVERS BRITISH

"SPY RING" IN U.S.

1. "IRISH PRESS" AUGUST 15 CARRIES STORY ON REMARKS BY JAMES C. HEANY, LAWYER IN BUFFALO WHO CLAIMS TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR "NATIONAL COUNCIL OF IRISH AMERICANS." IT IS UNCLEAR WHERE HEANY'S REMARKS WERE MADE. HEANY CLAIMS THAT LENGTHY INVESTIGATION BY COUNCIL HAS DISCOVERED MASSIVE SPY RING INVOLVING BOTH BRITISH AGENTS IN U.S. AND A FORMER AMERICAN CONSUL IN BELFAST. STORY CONTINUES THAT BRITISH AGENTS, "WITH APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT NIXON," HAVE BEEN SHADOWING AMERICANS CRITICAL OF BRITISH POLICY IN NI. USG SOURCES "WHO DISAPPROVED OF SPY OPERATIONS BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZENS" HAVE GIVEN COUNCIL SOME OF ITS INFORMATION. COUNCIL HAS ALSO NOTED PRESS DISCLOSURES THAT IRS HAS AUDITED TAX RETURNS OF IRISH-AMERICANS WHO HAVE "REPUBLICAN" VIEWS ON NI SITUATION. ALL THIS SHOWS THAT NIXON ADMINISTRATION MADE IRISH-AMERICANS "SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY." COUNCIL PLANS TO REPORT SPYING AFFAIR TO ATTORNEY GENERAL AND WATERGATE INVESTIGATORS.

2. WE DOUBT THAT COUNCIL'S CLAIM WILL CAUSE MANY PROBLEMS IN IRELAND, WHERE THERE IS WIDESPREAD IRRITATION AT FUND-RAISING
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ACTIVITIES OF IRISH-AMERICAN GROUPS. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED TWO

PRESS QUERIES ON STORY, HOWEVER, AND MAY GET OTHERS. WOULD APPRE-
CIATE ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON "NATIONAL COUNCIL OF IRISH-
AMERICANS." WE HAVE NEVER HEARD OF IT. MOORE

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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